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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 260680

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FOL REPEAT OF NICOSIA 4232 TO SECSTATE INFO ATHENS ANKARA LONDON
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QTE:
S E C R E T NICOSIA 4232

LIMDIS

DEPARTMENT PASS SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR CY GR TU
SUBJ: CONVERSATION WITH GREEK AMBASSADOR

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH ME BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE FOR ATHENS
TO PARTICIPATE IN SCHEDULED KARAMANLIS-MAKARIOS-CLERIDES
MEETINGS, GREEK AMBASSADOR DOUNTAS EXPRESSED VERY DEEP CONCERN
ABOUT STABILITY BETWEEN GREEK CYPRIOTS. GREEK EMBASSY HAS
SENSED THAT PRO- AND ANTI-MAKARIOS FACTIONS ARE ITCHING TO HAVE
AT EACH OTHERS' THROATS. AS DOUNTAS PUT IT, ALL THE GUNS ARE
COMING OUT OF HIDING. DESPITE THE EFFORTS OF (MAINLAND GREEK)
NATIONAL GUARD COMMANDER, GENERAL KARAYIANNIS, EOKA-B STILL
FLOURISHES. SOME OF ITS MEMBERS ARE KNOWN TO BE PLANNING AN
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PAGE 02 STATE 260680

EFFORT TO ASSASSINATE MAKARIOS AS SOON AS HE RETURNS. MAKARIOS

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

HAS HIS OWN MILITANTS AND NOT ALL WILL OBEY ORDERS. IN THIS CONNECTION, SAID DOUNTAS, IT IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL TO THE EFFORTS GREEK EMBASSY AND CLERIDES MAKING TO PRESERVE STABILITY WHEN MAKARIOS COMES BACK THAT ARCHBISHOP'S SUPPORTERS BE GIVEN NO GROUNDS TO FEEL ANY OUTSIDE ELEMENT HAD SOUGHT TO DISCOURAGE HIS RETURN. WHATEVER HE DOES MUST BE CLEARLY SEEN AS HIS OWN CHOICE SO THAT HIS SUPPORTERS ARE GIVEN NO PRETEXT TO ACT.

2. DOUNTAS ALLUDED TO POSSIBILITY THAT ARCHBISHOP MIGHT RESIGN THE PRESIDENCY BEFORE END OF YEAR. AS HE HAS BEFORE, HE HINTED AT A GOG ROLE WITH CHURCH LEADERS IN CYPRUS IN THIS REGARD.

3. DOUNTAS ASKED ABOUT TIMING OF A POSSIBLE RESCHEDULED VISIT TO ANKARA BY THE SECRETARY, AND WHAT WE EXPECTED TURKEY TO CONCEDE. I PARRIED BOTH QUESTIONS.
CRAWFORD UNQTE INGERSOLL

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